SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

JUNE · 1946



PUBLISHED BY THE SIERRA CLUB . SAN FRANCISCO, CALIFORNIA

SIERRA CLUB BULLETIN

VOLUME XXXI · NUMBER 3



JUNE . 1946

Published bimonthly by the Sierra Club, 220 Bush Street, San Francisco 4, California. Annual dues are \$4.00 (first year \$8.00), of which \$1.00 is for subscription to Sierra Club Bulletin. Entered as second-class matter at Post Office, San Francisco, under Act of March 3, 1879.

Contributions on subjects of interest to Sierra Club members are welcome, and should be sent to Editorial Board.

DAVID R. BROWER, Editor HARRIET T. PARSONS, Associate Editor

Ansel Adams, Barbara Bedayn, Arthur H. Blake, August Frugé, Weldon F. Heald, Charlotte E. Mauk, Carel Mulder, Marion R. Parsons, Elsie Richardson, Dorothy Sandstrom, Blanche Stallings

THE COVER-East Vidette, Kings Canyon National Park. By Cedric Wright.

EDITOR'S MISCELLANY

It was the first postwar meeting of the Sierra Club's Board of Directors at which the five returned servicemen—all directors before the war—could resume their former duties. It was remarkable for the tremendous volume of business transacted. It would have been outstanding if only for the length of the meeting, which went on longer than any previous tession. But above all else the meeting on May 4 was memorable as the occasion of the retirement of Secretary William E. Colby.

When a man has been officer of an organization for 46 years, he quite naturally becomes an institution. Will Colby has been Secretary of the Sierra Club for as long as most of its 4200 have been members (and as long as the majority of them can remember

anything!). He first became Secretary in 1900, and has served continuously in that post except for the two years (1917-1919) that he was President. He had promised himself that he would retire at the end of 40 years of secretaryship, but was persuaded to continue in office until the end of the war.

Now he is to be succeeded by Richard M. Leonard, whom Colby himself nominated "with the greatest pleasure." Fortunately, however, Will Colby is still a member of the Board, and will serve during the coming year as fifth member of the Executive Committee.

It will be impossible for anyone to evaluate what Will Colby has done for the Sierra Club; he himself has probably forgotten a good deal of his fine work, and perhaps still more of it has never been properly acknowledged. But to those who know anything about California conservation history, from the earliest movement (led by John Muir) for the creation of Yosemite National Park, down through a long list of acquisitions of national and state parks and monuments, to present-day efforts to prevent invasion of the few remaining wilderness areas, the name Colby stands for leadership in protection of the natural scene.

As though his achievements in the conservation field were not enough, Will Colby is at this time making a gift to the Sierra Club which includes (a) the painting of Mount Assiniboine which now hangs in the Club room; (b) bound volumes of the Sierra Club Bulletin which were owned by Edward Whymper, willed to Aurelia Harwood, and willed by her to Colby, (c) a collection of letters written by John Muir in connection with the Yosemite Park negotiations. Isn't it an unusual ceremony in which a retiring officer is donor rather than recipient of gifts?

But, then, Will Colby is an unusual man. C.E.M. At the Directo Francis were el

Pres

dent, P Leonar ecutive E. Col LeCon M. Alb Jepson, Farland Parsons der, Ra

Best comple for a re entire duous tary.

Amo those mittees

The prepara awaitin given A "Interphe con the ph thusias made t

Editor and ap the lon given to Editor Mr.

for dis

Directors Plan for Coming Year

At the organization meeting of the Board of Directors of the Sierra Club, held in San Francisco on May 4, the following officers were elected for 1946-47:

President, Bestor Robinson; Vice-president, Phil S. Bernays; Secretary, Richard M. Leonard; Treasurer, Walter L. Huber; Executive Committee Fifth Member, William E. Colby. Honorary President, Joseph N. LeConte; Honorary Vice-presidents, Horace M. Albright, Newton B. Drury, Willis Linn Jepson, François E. Matthes, J. Horace McFarland, Frederick Law Olmsted, Marion R. Parsons, Robert G. Sproul, Donald B. Tresidder, Ray Lyman Wilbur, William H. Wright.

Bestor Robinson's first official act, upon completion of election of officers, was to call for a resolution expressing the feelings of the entire Board with respect to the long and arduous service of William E. Colby as Secretary.

Among reports presented to the Board were those from the following standing committees:

Editorial (Francis Farquhar, chairman).

—The 1946 magazine number is now in preparation, although the editors are still awaiting important copy. Great praise was given Ansel Adams for the special feature on "Interpretation of the Natural Scene" which he contributed to the 1945 Bulletin. Both the photographs and the text received enthusiastic comment, and alone would have made the final wartime number outstanding.

David R. Brower was appointed to succeed Francis Farquhar, retiring chairman of the Editorial Board, and a vote of special thanks and appreciation was given Mr. Farquhar for the long, arduous, and skillful service he has given the Club over a period of 21 years as Editor of the Sierra Club Bulletin.

Mr. Adams having brought the matter up for discussion, the Editorial Board was directed to prepare for study by the Directors a booklet or brochure giving information about the organization, ideals, and history of the Sierra Club for the information of members, prospective members, and the public. Earlier plans for such a publication were held up by the war.

Mr. Colby stated that he felt it would be very desirable for the Sierra Club to republish in book form John Muir's "Studies in the Sierra," illustrating it with John Muir's drawings as well as some photographs of the same scenes. Mr. Farquhar suggested that an article by Mr. Colby on Muir's contribution to Sierra geological knowledge be used as an introduction, together with a note by Dr. Buwalda. The proposal was unanimously approved and was referred to the Editorial Board for execution.

Mr. Farquhar mentioned the Manual of Ski Mountaineering, prepared essentially by the Winter Sports Committee, the revised edition of which was recently published, and the fine comments that have been received concerning it. He read a cordial note received from Geoffrey Winthrop Young, noted British mountaineer and editor of Mountain Craft, commending the book, and it was voted that appropriate greetings of the Sierra Club be conveyed to Mr. Young and be forwarded by Mr. Hildebrand, who had talked with Mr. Young while in London.

Lodges (Arthur H. Blake).—A permanent master plan for control and maintenance of lodges is to be prepared and submitted at a later meeting of the Board. Necessary maintenance work at the various lodges was discussed, and plans for the coming season's operation were announced so far as possible.

Mr. Robinson suggested, and it was subsequently voted, that the authority of the Lodge Committee be clarified as follows:

The Lodge Committee shall exercise the powers granted by Article XI of the by-laws. If the power of management of any lodge

retary in y in that 17-1919) ised himnd of 40 suaded to

chard M. cominated tunately, eer of the ning year

mmittee.

to evaluhe Sierra rgotten a haps still acknowling about

rom the uir) for rk, down national present-

few ree Colby the nat-

Colby is ra Club Mount the Club ra Club Edward

od, and etion of nection Isn't it ing offifts?

al man. E.M. has been vested by the Directors in any chapter or committee other than the Lodge Committee, the powers granted to the Lodge Committee by the by-laws shall be exercised only on matters of policy and the establishing of general rules applicable to all lodges or all lodges of a class.

Power of management of the lodges of this Club is vested: in the Southern California Chapter for Harwood Lodge; in Clair Tappaan Lodge Committee for Clair Tappaan Lodge, White Rock Ski Hut, and Peter Grubb Ski Hut; in the Lodge Committee for all other lodges and huts.

Alex Hildebrand was appointed chairman of the Committee for the coming year.

The parents of Lieut. John P. Benson, who served in the 87th Mountain Infantry and was killed in action in Italy, have proposed to aid the financing of construction of a Club ski hut or shelter in the Donner Summit region. The Secretary was asked to send a letter to Mr. and Mrs. Benson in the name of the Board, thanking them for their generosity.

Mr. M. Hall McAllister has proposed naming the start of the Mount Shasta summit trail "Olberman Causeway," in memory of J. M. Olberman, who served as custodian of Shasta Alpine Lodge for many years and constructed the stone causeway; he has further proposed that he place a plaque on the trail, bearing the name and appropriate information. The proposal was approved.

The use of Parsons Memorial Lodge was discussed, and it was the sense of the Board that the building should not be used as living quarters, but was available to members in extremely bad weather or other extreme emer-

pency

High Sierra Trails (Arthur H. Blake).—
Forest and Park Service appropriations not yet being known, it is not possible to tell what work can be done this year; it seems improbable that anything can be planned for now beyond repair and maintenance (long neglected for shortage of funds and manpower),

with the possible exception of reconstruction of dangerous areas in park trails and perhap a new bridge or two. Walter A. Starr was appointed to head this committee in the future.

Mountain Records (Arthur H. Blake).—
During the war the only thing that could be done with the records was to accumulate them—but there is much material to be worked on now. New registers should be placed on some Sierra peaks as soon as possible.

Mountain Sheep (Arthur H. Blake).— A study which had just begun to make headway before the war should now be resumed; only a few reports have been received in the past four years.

(Upon completion of these four reports Dave Brower moved for a resolution of special thanks to Art, "who has kept noses above water for four different committees.")

Outing (Richard M. Leonard).—Advance sign-ups show the tremendous popularity of all the Sierra Club Outings. Saddle-horse, Base Camp, and part of the High Trip already have waiting lists, and Burro and Knapsack Trips are nearly full.

Winter Sports (Richard H. Felter).—The development of new ski areas is being studied by the Sierra Club as a member club of the California Ski Association, and the Club is trying to encourage more ski touring and camping. Lewis F. Clark was appointed new chairman of the committee.

Clair Tappaan Lodge (Richard N. Burnley).—Operations were carried out with remarkable success in spite of difficulties, and this year's work parties will probably complete projects long deferred.

Conservation Committee (Weldon F. Heald).—Mr. Colby stated, in view of questions recently raised, that for many years the Club has had no conservation committee as such, the Club itself being a conservation club and the Board of Directors its main conservation committee, working on conservation matters all the time. It was the sense of the Board that the status of the present Conservation Committee be clarified as follows:

committee, and make I to the Boar

Topics cluded the Tree Nati grazing ir acquisition parks.

The Sic Commission limitation prevent of the upper San Jacin authorize proposed for const tions, and ing prog destroy v Repor

> Park Sei the Federent stat Grove ar Commis to author park (Si yon Nat tion aboreferred further Repo

structio summit Mr. Fa ment is should position people The

> use of parks a Mr. over d

it is a conservation-study and fact-finding committee, to consider conservation problems and make recommendations concerning them to the Board.

Topics dealt with during the meeting included the San Jacinto matter, the Joshua Tree National Monument, the problem of grazing in the High Sierra meadows, and acquisition of certain redwood lands for state parks.

The Sierra Club is urging the State Park Commission to enforce the restrictions and limitations, already in existence, which will prevent overdevelopment of "facilities" at the upper terminus of the tramway which the San Jacinto Winter Park Authority has been authorized to build. The plans originally proposed by the W. P. Authority do not call for construction of hotel-type accommodations, and it is to be hoped that no such building program will be permitted to further destroy wilderness values.

Reports were received from the National Park Service concerning conferences with the Federal Power Commission on the current status of plans for the proposed Cedar Grove and Simpson Meadow Reservoirs. The Commission advised that they had no power to authorize a reservoir within a national park (Simpson Meadow being in Kings Canyon National Park). They had no information about Cedar Grove. The reports were referred to the Conservation Committee for further study.

Report was made of the proposed reconstruction of the old survey monument on the summit of Mount Shasta. Upon motion by Mr. Farquhar, it was voted that if the monument is reconstructed as a historical relic, it should be placed at an appropriate timberline position, where it would be available to more people and not affect the natural summit.

The Board reiterated its opposition to the use of planes in wilderness areas of national parks and forests.

Mr. Livermore mentioned his concern over dirty Sierra camps left by many small parties and often attributed to the Club, and proposed that the Club aid a project, to be undertaken by Boy Scouts with help from the High Sierra Packers' Association, for cleaning up camps. The Directors voted \$50 to the project.

A communication concerning purchases of public lands on the east slope of the Sierra by the city of Los Angeles was referred to the Conservation Committee for study and report.

Frank Kittredge, Superintendent of Yosemite National Park, was present for part of the meeting, and he spoke briefly to the Directors. He told of the tremendously increased travel to the national parks, and of the desirability of having at least some of the visitors realize what lay beyond the roadways and settlements. "Yosemite is 87 per cent wilderness," he said. "There are lots of wonderful places to hike.... Getting people out on the trails is the best way of making conservationists out of them."

A problem mentioned by Kittredge and later discussed further by the Board has to do with grazing in the Sierra. Many recognize that the saturation point is soon to be reached. "We know that we are going to have to regulate grazing very soon," said the Superintendent, and added that it is desirable to encourage walking (rather than discouraging riding) as a means of assuring greater use and enjoyment of mountain wilderness without destroying its values. The more walking and the fewer animals, the greater use.

Visual Education (Doris Leonard).—The two Sierra Club films have proven so popular and so valuable that plans are under way for making further pictures which will tell of wilderness values.

The Visual Education Committee was changed in name to the Education Committee, and all matters relating to the preparation of films and radio programs were referred to the new committee for study and report to the Executive Committee.

Glacier Study (Oliver Kehrlein).—The committee is resuming its activity, and this

resumed; ed in the r reports

ses above

onstruction

nd perhapi

arr was ap-

he future.

Blake) .-

t could be

alate them

worked on

d on some

Blake).-

ake head-

Advance larity of e-horse, I'rip ald Knap-

The studied of the Club is ing and ed new

ith res, and
com-

quesrs the tee as ration conerva-

se of Conlows: September will participate in the mapping of the Palisade Glacier in cooperation with the American Alpine Club, which organization is sponsoring and financing the project.

Treasurer (Walter L. Huber).—The report for 1945 was approved as printed in the April Sierra Club Bulletin, and the budget was discussed in detail and approved, power being given the Executive Committee to amend it if necessary. Mr. Huber presented a tabulated study of previous financial reports, dating back to 1894—the days when three figures more than comfortably contained the Club's "worth." The Board expressed thanks for Mr. Brower's note, accompanied by check, to the effect that the contributors to the Manual of Ski Mountaineering were donating their royalties from the book to the Sierra Club for visual-education

Chapters.—Chairmen Frank B. Duveneck, Alex Hildebrand, and James T. Vickrey were present; Mary P. Abeel and A. J. Twogood were unable to attend. Reports, either read or given orally by the chairmen, were accepted. Recent action by the Southern California Chapter included changing by-laws so that future amendments must be approved by chapter membership, and the starting of a newspaper (Southern Sierran) for chapter members. The Board recommended that all chapters have such a procedure for amendment. The Loma Prieta Chapter has been particularly interested in the proposed addition of redwoods in Butano Basin to the state park system. The Riverside Chapter report was especially concerned with the San Jacinto matter (discussed elsewhere in this issue).

Membership Committee.—It was voted that a Membership Committee be appointed to consist of the chairman of the membership committee of each chapter (ex-officio) and three additional members; to establish, subject to the control of the Directors, uniform procedures and policies, consistent with the by-laws, for the admission of members; to investigate and recommend action to the Ex-

ecutive Committee on all protests against admission to membership, the unfavorable recommendation of the membership committee of any chapter to be deemed a protest under Article XIX of the by-laws.

New Committee to Study Organization,—
Many matters of procedure were referred for study to a new committee (not yet appointed) whose function is comparison of the by-laws and procedures of the various chapters and preparation of recommendations for bringing them into agreement with those of the Club itself, so that all chapter and Club affairs will be uniformly handled. A further responsibility of the new committee will be study of and recommendations on the scope of the various standing committee of the Club.

Copies of the two reports of the Special Committee for Southern California appointed at the December meeting having been received by the Directors prior to the meeting, it was unanimously voted that they be received and referred to the Committee on Organization for further study. Appreciation of the Special Committee's hard work was expressed.

The amendments to the by-laws which were proposed at the December meeting, and which were subsequently deferred for further consideration, were referred to the Organization Committee.

Several letters were read from members raising the question whether it might be desirable to raise the dues, the initiation fee, or to collect some special funds for conservation work, and there was a general discussion, a number of suggestions being made by the Directors. The subject of extra funds for the work the Club is doing was referred to the Organization Committee and the Executive Committee,

Rules of Procedure,—Mr. Robinson stated that he wished to make certain recommendations to the Board concerning rules governing the functioning of committees, pending a report fro tion Com was thereu

RESOLV ern the or committee ter comm Organizat Board of 1. All

appointed
2. The

Board of 3. The subject to members

presented

With aut pected th various () years, Prasome form to the see a few of and impmembers communisubcommlodge.

Most of ing according the of the lo

system an

Mount S rial "Hi 1½ mil Camp. T ing is us against adorable reccommittee otest under

ern the commit ereferred ter com ot yet ap Organizorarison of Board of the various 1. A

mendations
with those
apter and
handled,
v commitdations on
committees

te Special
a appointg been remeeting,
ey be renittee on
preciation
work was

vs which ting, and for furthe Ormembers

n fee, or servation ussion, a by the s for the d to the

on stated imendaiverning inding a

xecutive

report from the newly authorized Organization Committee. The following resolution was thereupon unanimously adopted:

RESOLVED: The following rules shall govern the organization and functioning of the committees of this Club (not including chapter committees) pending the report of the Organization Committee and action by the Board of Directors thereon:

 All committees excepting the Executive Committee and subcommittees shall be appointed by the President.

2. The Executive Committee is authorized to confirm all committee appointments presented to it by the President when the Board of Directors is not in session.

3. The President is authorized to appoint, subject to required confirmation, ex-officio members of committees either within or in

addition to the authorized number of members of such committees.

 Members of committees are authorized to serve pending confirmation.

 Any committee at its discretion may transact its business by mail or other means of communication.

 Any committee may at its discretion create, appoint, and remove subcommittees either from within or outside its own membership, but such subcommittees shall have no authority independent of the main committee.

 Only members of the Club shall be eligible to serve on committees and subcommittees.

The President is authorized to remove any committee members.

Lodges Open This Summer

With auto travel again unrestricted, it is expected that many more Sierrans will visit the various Club lodges than during the war years. Practically all the lodges and huts offer some form of recreational activity in addition to the scenic attraction of their locality. At a few of them work parties for maintenance and improvements will be organized, and members who are interested in helping should communicate with the local committee or subcommittee in charge of the particular lodge.

Most of the lodges have sleeping or camping accommodations, but members should bring their own sleeping bags, and, for most of the lodges, their own food.

The following is a résumé of the lodge system and plans for the summer.

Shasta Alpine Lodge (8,000 ft. elev.), at timberline on Mount Shasta, is reached from Mount Shasta (City) via the Everett Memorial "Highway" to Sand Flat and thence by 1½ miles of trail to the lodge at Horse Camp. This sturdy, single-room, stone building is used by mountain climbers and is the

goal of many visitors to 14,161-foot Mount Shasta. This rest house was built largely through the inspiration and generosity of Hall McAllister. Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Bridge Cooke, custodians, will be on hand during July and August. Camping is available in the vicinity.

Passons Memorial Lodge (8,600 ft. elev.) is near Lembert Soda Springs in Tuolumne Meadows, and is reached by a side road which runs west from the main Tioga Road about a mile. It is a single-room stone building with large fireplace, is surrounded by a number of scenic campsites, available for club members and their guests. The separate McCauley cabin is used by custodians Mr. and Mrs. Jencks, who will be there from late June through Labor Day.

Clair Tappaan Lodge (7,000 ft. elev.), at Donner Summit, although designed primarily for skiers, has proved quite popular in summer. Numerous small lakes in the region afford excellent swimming and fishing. Two of them, Flora and Azalea, about 1½ miles from the lodge, have recently been purchased

by the Club to insure their continued availability. The lodge is headquarters for those who wish to explore the immediate region and the Emigrant Trail. The trip to Peter Grubb Hut (elev. 8,000 ft.), on the lower slopes of Castle Peak, is an easy and pleasant walk of only five miles from the lodge; the hut is available for overnight trips. White Rock Lake Hut (shelter only) is five miles farther north.

Several items of seasonal work and improvements to facilities are to be accomplished, such as cutting wood, covering mattresses, installing a new fire water tank (Strictly for fighting fire!—Ed.), and completing the incinerator. Members are encouraged to volunteer to spend some time on these projects while at the lodge or to go on the week-end work parties during late summer and fall. They will be given credit to defray a portion of their expenses, but there are other, higher rewards.

There will be a custodian at the lodge all summer who will provide a central commissary. Summer reservations should be asked for in advance, by writing to the Clair Tappaan Lodge manager, Keith Lummis, Sierra Club, Soda Springs, Calif. The dormitories have ample capacity for all summer visitors.

Le Conte Memorial Lodge (4,000 ft. elev.), on the south side of Yosemite Valley, about half way between Camp Curry and the Old Village. This, the oldest of Sierra Club lodges, is visited by many club members and the general public for its quiet atmosphere, its historic and educational collections of pictures, and as a source of general information regarding the High Sierra. No accommodations are provided, but a custodian, Mrs. Enid Michael, is in residence during the summer months.

Harwood Memorial Lodge (6,000 ft. elev.), in San Antonio Canyon above Pomona, and constructed and operated by the Club members in the Southern California Chapter, serves as an ideal headquarters for

numerous groups of that chapter and for visib by individual members and groups. The lodge has a well-equipped kitchen, dining room, lounge, and dormitories for men and women. No custodian is on hand, but a hou and hostess attend on numerous week end, and access is obtainable as described in the current Southern California Chapter schedule.

San Antonio Ski Hut (8,300 ft. elev.), on the south slopes of Mount San Antonio, was constructed and is used primarily by the Sti Mountaineers Section of the Southern California Chapter, and is reached by a steep 2½-mile trail from the end of the road a short distance above Harwood Lodge, Limited sleeping accommodations are available. Summer visits are made by members who wish to climb Mount San Antonio. Arrangements must be made as described in the Chapter schedule.

Keller Peak Ski Hut (6,800 ft. elev.), on the Big Bear Highway in Snow Valley opposite Keller Peak, was constructed by the Ski Mountaineers Section. Although used primarily by skiers, this capacious hut has a well-equipped kitchen, living room, small dining room, and dormitories. It is frequently used in summer by members who wish to enjoy the surrounding mountain scenery. Several work parties are scheduled this summer to improve the lighting, water, and other facilities. Again, see the current Southern California Chapter schedule.

John Muir Shelter (12,050 ft. elev.) is situated on Muir Pass, for emergency use by parties caught between the timberline campsites far below the pass on either side. Accommodations are nonexistent. There are no bunks, and the fireplace is useful only so long as passing travelers (particularly those with pack stock) remember to carry up wood from timberline. Nevertheless the shelter can be snug in a storm.

Alex Hildebrand, Chairman Lodge Committee The Nati quarters purpose o profit org tage of sc 1919, re 1944, 2, of the a Board of members ganizatio trustees represent Blake is Several o Sierra C

Durin given cor

1. Ad area of t of Canad granite-l the west type of

establish tional P: of the A area pro standard 3. Di

"200" of Nationa though of demo

4. U

Other Conservation Organizations

I. THE NATIONAL PARKS ASSOCIATION

The National Parks Association, with headquarters in Washington, D. C., states its purpose on its letterhead as "a voluntary, nonprofit organization guarding America's heritage of scenic wilderness." It was founded in 1919, reached a membership of 1,300 in 1944, 2,300 in 1945, and 2,639 at the time of the annual meeting held last May. Its Board of Trustees consists of twenty-nine members appointed by leading outdoor organizations of America and sixteen additional trustees elected at large. Duncan McDuffie represents the Sierra Club, and Arthur H. Blake is a member of the Advisory Council. Several other trustees are also members of the Sierra Club.

During the present year the Association has given consideration to many problems; it has:

- 1. Advocated retention of the roadless area of the Quetico-Superior wilderness area of Canada and the United States (a region of granite-bound small lakes, just northwest of the western tip of Lake Superior; a unique type of wilderness).
- 2. Opposed a bill (H.R. 1441) for the establishment of a Theodore Roosevelt National Park in North Dakota; in the opinion of the Association's executive committee the area proposed fell far short of national park standards.
- 3. Disapproved the plan for a sort of "zoo" on private lands in the Jackson Hole National Monument, on the ground that although the objective was worthy, that type of demonstration should not be conducted within a national monument.
- 4. Urged the support of annual appropriations on a regular basis for the acquisition of

private land in national parks and monuments.

- Requested the National Park Service to examine an area in California having a fine growth of Joshua Trees, with a view to its possible inclusion in Joshua Tree National Monument.
- Given careful consideration to the need of the Association for additional funds and an assistant to the executive secretary.
- 7. Approved in principle the proposal to organize a central-service agency for conservation — an agency which would inform member groups about pending legislative and administrative programs and about each other,
- 8. Called attention to a bill (S. 1945) "to provide for the granting of public lands to certain States, for the elimination of lands from national forests, parks, monuments, reservations and withdrawals in connection with such grants," and expressed the opinion that it was a highly dangerous bill, although not likely to be given much consideration at the present session.
- 9. Strongly urged upon Congress the need of initiating a continuing policy for purchase of 625,000 acres of privately owned lands within the national parks and monuments. The total cost of all these purchases would eventually be \$20,000,000, and the item of \$350,000 provided for in the 1946-47 budget was considered reasonable and necessary.
- 10. Strongly opposed bills (S. 1999 and H.R. 5401) which would direct the Secretary of the Interior to undertake the immediate reduction in the number of wolves and other predators in McKinley National Park. The recent decline in numbers of the Dall mountain sheep in the Park, which the bills

for vine aps. The n, dining men and out a hou eek ends, ed in the schedule.

elev.), on onio, was y the Shi ern Caliy a steep ne road a ge. Limavailable. who wish

ngements

Chapter

w Valley ed by the agh used nut has a m, small equently sh to en-

summer and other Southern elev.) is

ne campnide. Acre are no y so long ose with ood from r can be

irman mittee were intended to correct, is thought by competent scientists to be due in large part to diseases and other unfavorable factors rather than to predation by wolves. It was stated that the National Park Service, under existing authority, is already taking steps to reduce the wolf population in the Park as a precautionary measure.

11. Emphatically opposed the proposal to log the forests of Olympic National Park. It was pointed out that ample resources are available elsewhere. 12. Reported that oil had been discovered within sixty miles of the proposed Everglades National Park in Florida, and that this would undoubtedly slow up the formation of the park somewhat.

This report will indicate the variety of problems that constantly confront all active conservation groups in their effort to assist with plans for the best possible use of all national resources, wherever they may be.

RICHARD M. LEONARD

Lumbering in National Parks?

Secretary of the Interior J. A. Krug recently denied a report that the National Park Service had agreed on a new policy which would permit the cutting of timber on park lands. In a letter to the editor of the West Coast Lumberman, who had requested a statement, Secretary Krug said:

"The National policy of maintaining national-park forests inviolate, established by law, has been strengthened by general public acceptance of it over the long period since the Congress began giving park status to the nationally significant scenic areas of this country. Only in the parks will Americans of the present and the future be assured of an opportunity to see and savor the majesty and the beauty of the natural forest and to observe the natural processes which produce and affect the forest community."

Stating that the time might conceivably come when the necessities of the nation would be so urgent as to justify some harvesting of national park timber, the Secretary asserted that no present or immediately foreseeable contingency supports the pressure for such action.

Referring specifically to suggestions that the cutting of virgin forests in Olympic National Park, in Washington, would be justified by the need of lumber for the construction of homes for veterans, the Secretary said that any existent shortage of lumber is not due to any shortage of standing timber on nonpark lands, but to a variety of other causes.

Secretary Krug called attention to an article which appeared in the *Lumberman* (January, 1946) as proof of the present wealth of commercial saw timber in Washington and Oregon. Stating that this amounted to more than 438 billion board feet, the author, E. H. McDaniels, declared that this supply "would, for example, supply materials to build 73 million five-room houses, without any changes in utilization or logging methods."

[Source of this material is the Department of Interior Information Service. It is presented to give members an idea of the conservation policy of the new Secretary of the Interior, and to amplify, once more, this argument: when any particular resource of the nation becomes so scarce as to be found only in national parks, then it is high time to find a substitute, rather than to deplete or extinguish it in the parks.—D.R.B.]

[A received have be way—] looking du Mi late fo at San—Ed.

Chairr

Dear !

fornia

Rec

to get tion o lar to I wish mv vi took r I wou my in a repo Societ propo natur Societ while asked help forni quest Calif natio

splen instar stake. ing S two fores

The Wilderness Society

Moose, Wyoming June 12, 1946

SAN JACINTO: ROUND 14

[A recent news release announces that bids have been opened for the San Jacinto tramway—"highest in the world," they say, overlooking the 11,000-foot rise of the Aiguille du Midi funicular in the Alps. It is not too late for an objective view of what happened at San Jacinto. We think this letter gives it.—Ed.]

Mr. Joseph R. Knowland

Chairman, California State Park Commission Oakland, California

Dear Mr. Knowland:

Recently I traveled through southern California on behalf of the Wilderness Society to get acquainted with California conservation organizations in general and in particular to study the Mt. San Jacinto question. I wish that I could have talked with you after my visit to this mountain, but my itinerary took me into Arizona from that point. But I would like to give you here the results of my investigations, essentially in the form of a report that I shall present to the Wilderness Society and other interested groups. The proposal for a tramway on Mt. San Jacinto naturally became a concern of the Wilderness Society through its California members, and while traveling through your state I was often asked if the Wilderness Society could not help out in this controversy. As one Californian said: "This is in reality a national question. It transcends the boundaries of California." It may be compared with the national interest and cooperation in your splendid Redwoods State Parks. And in this instance a national forest primitive area is at stake. For if the critical central part comprising San Jacinto Mountain is eliminated the two remaining fragments of the national forest primitive areas are seriously affected.

As I understand it the purpose of the tramway is to provide skiing in that part of California. In itself, this is of course a worthy objective and I gave it full consideration. The skiing movement in America is one of the favorable developments in recent years, worthy of the support of all those who have regard for the well-being of our people.

But I must say that the proposal at San Jacinto Mountain is of a very dubious nature in this regard. It does not appear to promise the amount and kind of skiing that the public has been led to expect on the right kind of slopes to furnish mass skiing, the kind that would furnish the physical recreation required by the rank and file of skiers, the kind that would be a public service in a big way. Rather, San Jacinto would furnish tricky skiing for a relatively few experts. Even for this purpose the snow evidently is not ideal.

I would call your attention to a statement in the American Ski Annual for 1946, p. 278, by Cortlandt T. Hill, Treasurer of the California Ski Association, which reads as follows:

"A situation arose during the past winter which in the opinion of the writer is somewhat unfortunate. Assembly Bill 1239 which was before the California State Legislature permits the Mount San Jacinto State Park to be taken over by a Stock Company to be known as San Jacinto Winter Park Authority for the purpose of presumably promoting winter sports. This will call for the construction of a tramway from 2,700 feet to 8,450 feet, starting just a few miles up Chino Canyon from that famous spa, Palm Springs. The tram itself doesn't buy anyone any sking, as the slopes commence nearer the 9,000-foot level and extend up to 10,000 feet. The

variety of it all active ort to assist use of all may be.

1 discovered

Everglades t this would

tion of the

d be justiconstrucretary said ber is not timber on her causes. to an armberman e present in Washs amountfeet, the that this materials es, withlogging

partment t is prethe conty of the , this arce of the and only e to find or extin-

unfortunate part is that the snow conditions on the available slopes are uncertain as the mountain faces south and east and in our southern clime the sun can do a lot of damage in a short time, making it dangerously heavy in the day and icy after the sun is off the slope. Any effort to develop good skiing is commendable but we do not feel that the location is well selected, there being other localities far better suited than Mount San lacinto. Time will tell."

In a recent conversation with F. C. Huidekoper, well-known skier living in Jackson Hole, Wyoming, he said he had discussed the San Jacinto matter with some of the better skiers of the country who were familiar with San Jacinto Mountain and that they felt that development of that mountain for skiing is "absurd." I have not encountered evidence to support the ski project for San Jacinto in the face of the sacrifices involved. I would like to discuss those sacrifices and the other values at stake.

Principally, these values are inherent in the wilderness status of San Jacinto State Park. At San Bernardino I talked with several people and the comment was made: "If southern California is to have, and if it deserves, a wilderness area, this is it."

My own observations support this sentiment. I was amazed at the extensive commercial developments on some of the forest lands in southern California. There is much of the forest land already developed for those who seek or need all the comforts of civilization. As you know, much of the recreation area of southern California is of the desert type, admirable and priceless where it can be free from too obvious commercialism. But the pine-forest type of the high mountains is relatively scarce. My son and I spent parts of two days and a night on the high forested slopes of San Jacinto, away from the crowds, and we can testify that this mountain offers everything that one could ask in a wilderness -a variety of tall pines, cedars and other conifers, a delightful irregularity of rock

masses, a lively assemblage of birds and other wild creatures, and that sense of solitude that I am sure will be more and more appreciated by the American people as the years go by We must add to this a peculiar scientific interest. In the midst of a desert area, some of it below sea level, this mountain mass represents practically all of the life zones of the American continent. It is possible to go in a short time from the Sonoran zones on the desert into the high boreal zones of the mountain top. I can think of no better educational setting for groups of young people, who at the same time could hike into a primitive area for adventure and wholesome enperience.

You have here already an ideal situation: Roads penetrate part way up the mountain side for those who are unable or do not have the inclination to go farther, and they sense as a convenient jumping-off place for parties or individuals who want to enter the primitive area farther up by trail (or without trail).

We of the Wilderness Society feel that we all have an increased responsibility in these chaotic times. There is released in this postwar period a type of enthusiasm that does not always follow wise channels. Those who have the planning of such fundamental mattern as land use have thrust upon them the duty of making decisions that affect the welfare of human beings far into the future. These decisions often involve a choice such as the present one, whether something that can never be replaced, and that we believe will be more and more appreciated as time goes on, shall be sacrificed for something that ail admit is dubious and not necessarily permanent.

In this crisis we are comforted by the fact that, as reported to me, you had expressed yourself emphatically as committed to keeping San Jacinto State Park primitive. I believe this was on the occasion of its dedication. There is the further fact that in the creation of this park there was a distinct agreement with the Forest Service that the

primit be coo on the more, a num local o chasin aries people that i natura loved and v ment not b

> make cinto great migh jecti a nat is all

Lı

Hila tion nou Fed Mon cino Rec east

> Wi mei ren the Wa Cli

the wa ds and other primitive state was to be maintained, so as to solitude that be coordinated with similar primitive areas appreciated on the surrounding national forest. Furtheryears go by. more, it developed during my inquiries that cientific ina number of public-spirited people in the rea, some of local community helped appreciably by purmass reprechasing private holdings within the boundones of the aries for addition to the state park. These e to go in a people loved the mountain, and I was assured nes on the that it was their wish that it remain in its nes of the natural state. I met some others who obviously tter educaloved the wild mountain top in the same way ng people, and who fervently wished that the committo a primiments for keeping the primitive area would not be violated.

I note that there have been proposals to make National Monuments of the San Jacinto and San Gorgonio Mountains, for greater assurance that the primitive character might be preserved. I realize that a more objective view of a situation may be possible by a national institution, but surely the victory is all the greater if it can be attained on the

state or local level. For example, we have been gratified by recent successes of the people of New York State in their efforts to preserve the Adirondacks. We realize the difficulties you have to face in view of the preliminary steps already taken by the California legislature, but obviously that body left it up to the California State Park Commission to make the final decision by its approval or disapproval. The country has its eyes on California, anxiously awaiting the outcome. Success or failure in this instance is bound to affect the outcome of our efforts elsewhere.

May I assure you that you have the wholehearted support of the Wilderness Society in any steps that you take to safeguard the values in Mt. San Jacinto State Park for which it was originally dedicated by the California State Park Commission.

Cordially yours,
O. J. Murie, Director
The Wilderness Society

Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs to Convene

Hilary Crawford, President of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, has announced that the annual convention of the Federation will meet from Saturday through Monday, August 31-September 2, at Mendocino Woodlands, a National Park Service Recreation Development Area, a few miles east of Mendocino City.

The Contra Costa Hills Club will be the

host club, with Tillie Smedberg as General Chairman. The three days will be well filled with convention proceedings, campfires, entertainment, walks, and swimming. Commissary will be arranged, and there are cabins for delegates and guests (but sleeping bags should be brought). All those who can assist in the program are asked to mention it when making reservations.

Four Generations

Within the past few days applications for membership in the Club were made by Warren Olney III and Warren Olney IV. Before their respective deaths, Warren Olney and Warren Olney, Jr., were members of the Club. In fact, as pointed out in "The Son of the Wilderness" (page 254), the Sierra Club was founded on May 28, 1892, in the office

of Attorney Warren Olney, the great-grandfather of Warren Olney IV. It seems to me that it is a noteworthy item and probably the first instance in the history of the Club that four successive generations have been members, and the significance is enhanced by the fact that the first of the four individuals was a founder.

HENRY V. COLBY

lesome erl situation:
mountain
o not have
they serve
for parties
the primicout trail).
sel that we
y in these
this posttt does not
who have
matters as
e duty of

elfare of

These de-

ch as the

that can

ieve will

ime goes g that ail rily per-

the fact expressed to keepre. I bededicat in the distinct that the

How High Is a Snake?

There are those who suspect that snakes work higher into the Sierra during a dry summer—such as may be due in most of the range this year. Be that as it may, snakes have worked fairly high during the course of years. Rattlers have been found at least as high as Moraine Lake, at an elevation of 10,500 feet on the Kern. Perhaps readers can top this record. Wherever they are, there is one good way to anticipate them.

Multiple suction, it has been proved by extensive research, is the only effective method of first aid for snake bite. Cutter Laboratories, Berkeley, Calif., uses this principle in a snake-bite kit which has been brought to our attention (see cut). The "Compak Kit" (at drug stores) is about the size of a shotgun shell and weight less than an ounce, although it includes three suction cups, tourniquet, knife, bottle of antiseptic, and complete directions. Because of their small size, the cups will hold themselves in place while the victim is walking or being transported to a physician.



Art Blake

No, we give no inclusive dates along with this man's name. Happily, this is not an obituary; it is just a credit line, duly authorized. For at the May meeting of the Directors it was moved, seconded, and unanimously voted that special thanks be extended to Arthur H. Blake for his efforts during the war years toward keeping "several committees' heads out of water," that a resolution be spread on the minutes, and that a copy be sent to Mr. Blake.

But, by leave of the Directors, we'll skip the Whereas and Be IT Now Therefore Resolved, and instead will try to tell you what we mean. Furthermore, we'll not send Mr. Blake a copy; he'll simply have to read it in print.

Art Blake came out of World War I with troubles that dog him yet, and in no mild manner. He found the Sierra his best salve. He had known it well before that war; now he learned it better, and knowing it intimately, knowing what the Sierra had done for him, he looked around to see what he could do for it.

He found so much to do that he has been busy ever since. The Sierra Club has not been alone in claiming his time. Locally, he has been particularly active with the Mountain Play Association, the Tamalpais Conservation Club, and the California Alpine Club. He knows the National Park Service, Forest Service, and State Park men who best know the out-of-doors. He is a past president of the Federation of Western Outdoor Clubs, is now editor of the Federation's Quarterly, has been a vice-president of the American Forestry Association, and has been consulted many times by the Wilderness Society and the National Parks Association. In the Sierra Club he has been called on to aid any number of projects. At one time or another he has served on the Editorial, High Sierra Trails, Lodge, Visual Education, Mountain Records and Place Names, Winter Sports, Clair Tappaan Lodge, and National Park and Forest Policy the re and at and h Club and " in spi many comm above Trail to kee ent v ently man shoul tion : comn of fa and t

well-

Ther

ress front Club do so tives, old a done it. 33 ginn rathe Yode man their meas ques armo Gui E.T

not

men

and

the recent land acquisition on Mount Shasta and at Donner Summit. He gave the names, stores) is and helped the production of the two Sierra and weigh Club films, "Sky-Land Trails of the Kings" and "Skis to the Sky-Land." During the war, in spite of the press-the hard press-of many other duties, he kept four of those committees, as was said, "with their heads above water": Lodge, Mountain Records, Trails, Mountain Sheep. Yet he still managed to keep up an enviable record as correspondent with Club men in the Service. Presently he is, among many other things, chairman of the Conservation Committee. That should by no means suggest that his conserva-

Policy committees. He did the spade work on

tion activity awaited the formation of that

committee. He has been a continuous source

of facts, of proper methods of procedure,

and withal has continually been a man of

well-advised action. Somehow, in addition to

all this, and as a perpetual source of amazement, he has managed to work for a living, too. He finds time, as well, to get into the mountains now and then, on foot and on skis.

These are such random notes on Art Blake as any person who knows the man well could jot down in no time at all, without resorting to research. They tell nothing of his ready wit, his occasional tiffs with Fowler, or his constant self-effacement (no one would be quicker to destroy this manuscript). They are recorded here, in extension of the minutes of the Directors' meeting, both to remind those who know Art Blake not quite so well of how much he has already accomplished, and also to demonstrate to those who do not know him at all, but know only the mountains he serves so devotedly, that when he looked at the Sierra, he saw what he could do for it, and went to work.

D.R.B.

Now It Can Be Done

There is reason for optimism about the progress we can now make on the conservation front in the growing evidence that Sierra Club members feel a personal obligation to do something toward our conservation objectives. This is a heartening change from the old attitude of, "Yes, something should be done but let Will Colby or the Directors do it." I first noticed this new spirit at the beginning of the war when I began writing a rather haphazard conservation column for the Yodeler. In no time at all people were demanding to be told where and how to register their approval of or opposition to various measures affecting the wilderness. Similar requests came from those who had gone into the armed forces - from the Aleutians, New Guinea, Burma, and all sections of the E.T.O. I still have such letters on my desk, not alone from Sierrans but from fellow members of the National Parks Association and of the Wilderness Society as well. Most

remarkable of all are those from men who belonged to no organization but who had sat in on bull sessions where conservation problems had been discussed and who had written to express their interest in seeing some of the best parts of our wilderness preserved for all time.

All this was an added incentive to keep the ball rolling until the end of the war when we could hope for vigorous and concerted action toward conservation goals. Fortunately, in 1945 the Directors approved the creation of a new Conservation Committee, and Weldon Heald, as chairman, made an intelligent and determined effort to get information and action on the most pressing problems facing us. However, help to do the work was limited and the chairman was further handicapped by his distance from San Francisco, which is the headquarters in California for many governmental services concerned with conservation. I was vice-chairman of the committee

ludes three bottle of 15. Became rold themwalking or

what he has been

not been , he has Iountain ervation lub. He Forest est know dent of Clubs, varterly, merican nsulted ety and e Sierra y numhe has Trails, Records r Tap-

Forest

and could find little time for committee work until after V-J Day. With the return of servicemen, there was so much personal pressure and needling for meetings and action that I determined to call together all those who seemed most interested. The results of this meeting were expressed in the February issue of the bimonthly in an article, "The Fall of the Wild," by David R. Brower. This excellent article has attracted the attention of national conservationists, and I recommend it to readers who want to get a good picture of the multitudinous problems which arise almost daily to plague the conservationist.

Since then three more meetings have been held and each succeeding meeting has been better attended and in the same three hours of discussion each time much information has been disseminated and some action taken, since Dick Leonard as Secretary of the Club also attends as a member of the committee and can bring up urgent last-minute matters on which final approval, if important enough, can be given by the Executive Committee.

The status of the Conservation Committee has been clarified. It is a study committee which will function to bring together all available information on conservation questions, with the power to make recommendations to the Executive Committee of the Board, based on the careful consideration of this information. It should be remembered that the work of the committee is purely advisory except where it is following a course already charted by the officers and directors of the Club and when it has been delegated the power to act.

Just as a sample let me brief here subjects considered at the June 13 meeting:

National Park Budget.—Latest information via Club Secretary Dick Leonard (who has been conducting a strenuous telegraphic campaign to obtain maximum restoration), indicates some \$15,000,000 has been restored to the proposed appropriation, and will likely be approved by Congress.

Proposed Butano State Park,-Years ago a

possible total cost of \$500,000 would have discouraged anyone from even thinking of purchase of a tract of land for a state park; but now, under the "matching funds" setup—which would call for a mere \$250,000 from outside sources—serious consideration can be given to the best means of raising that sum for Butano Forest acquisition.

The Loma Prieta Chapter, through Frank Duveneck and Hermann Horn (the latter a member of the Conservation Committee), in busy gathering maps of the region and exact information on the amount of land which should be saved. A committee from the San Mateo Chamber of Commerce is conducting studies on the proposed acquisition, and a group from the San Francisco area council on conservation, of the State Chamber of Commerce, is to visit the region this week.

East Bay Regional Parks and Redwood Peak.—It was recently reported by the Contra Costa Hills Club—a prime mover in regional parks matters—that summit areas of Redwood Peak, a favorite haunt of hikers, are about to be subdivided for building sites, according to the owner's proposal.

Jacqueline Watkins, a member of the Conservation Committee, was assigned to coordinate information from the office of the Regional Parks, the Contra Costa Hills and Berkeley Hiking clubs, and other interested public agencies.

Most encouraging report to date is that holders of adjacent lands will not grant right of way for the roads which would be required for the proposed subdivision.

High Sierra Grazing and Camp Use.—
The Sierra Club, because of its numerous and large outing parties, has an acute interest in the problem of grazing resources and use of wilderness camps. Because of that interest, the Outing Committee will make special reports, including before-and-after photographic records, on campground usage on various trips. Special attention will also be given to grazing problems (toward whose solution the Outing Committee has already

of pack outings Indiv

warding cisms to Commi Tower, Legi.

Secretar has com legislate and a ce Club's l by any i

> alibi fo tive Wh Josha reports but as ye

or a mis

(the la

Althoneeded revised ment, o will be

tion abo

This is it has be the rock on a difficult cathedral least the since the found, i ject to smany commany of tomary of found i

would have hinking of state park; ands" setup \$250,000 nsideration raising that

bugh Frank
the latter a
mittee), is
a and exact
and which
om the San
conducting
on, and a
council on
or of Comek.

w the Conmover in nmit areas to f hikers, building posal. er of the med to co-

Redwood

med to cofice of the Hills and interested ate is that

grant right

e required

nerous and interest in and use of t interest, special reproduces on all also be and whose as already

acted in voluntarily curtailing the number of pack and saddle animals to be used on outings).

Individual users of High Sierra camps and trails can help round out the report by forwarding observations, comments, and criticisms to the Chairman of the Conservation Committee of the Sierra Club, 1050 Mills Tower, San Francisco 4.

Legislative Directory. — Jack Barnard, Secretary of the Conservation Committee, has compiled a most comprehensive list of legislators and Congressional committees, and a copy of the list has been placed in the Club's library files, so that it can be consulted by any interested member.

Whether you want to write a polite letter or a missive of the "Dear Sir: You Cur!" type (the latter not recommended, however, as constructive action), you no longer have the alibi for failure to act that we lack a legislative Who's Who.

Ioshua Tree National Monument.—Late reports from Washington are encouraging, but as yet the Sheppard Bill, H.R. 4703, has not reached the floor of the House.

Although this bill authorizes purchase of needed sections of private land within the revised (reduced) boundaries of the Monument, obtaining the necessary appropriation will be a matter for separate action.

San Jacinto Tramevay.—With construction about due to begin, there is little hope of doing anything to save the violated wilderness except to support the State Park Commission in its announced plan of restricting to very modest necessities all improvements and developments on the land within the Park.

Winter Sports Development.—The chairman has drawn to the attention of those Club members who cooperate with the Council of the California Ski Association a dangerous tendency. Predatory interests seeking modification of boundaries of primitive areas such as San Gorgonio will gladly use the sportsmanlike enthusiasm of small ski clubs as an entering wedge to gain their own objectives—which can later be used to crowd members of the small ski clubs (the real skiers) from what is at present their own terrain.

Sierra Club delegates to future Council meetings are to be carefully advised as to Club policy, and are not to be authorized to commit the Club to approval of action in conflict with such policy.

This particular subject of winter sports developments will require very careful consideration in order to balance—especially in the case of national parks—proper restraint, on the one hand, against thoughtless opposition on the other hand. The beneficial effects of winter use of the parks certainly cannot be considered out of line with their accepted purposes.

ARTHUR H. BLAKE

Cathedral Spire in Danger

This is a man-bites-dog item. Heretofore it has been thought, popularly at least, that the rock-climber, not the rock, is in danger on a difficult climb. But just now, the Lower Cathedral Spire is in mild danger—or at least the route is. In the twelve years elapsing since the first ascent, no new route has been found, and the existing route has been subject to some wear and tear, due, perhaps, to many climbers' having followed the customary safety precaution of removing pitons found in place and driving them in once

more so that their soundness will be known. On the recent Memorial Day week end it was found that a portion of the route had fallen away—so crucial a portion that two parties were stopped by the hiatus. A third, very strong party made the ascent nonetheless, and Robin Hansen, a member of the party, passes this note on to those who would follow: "Use caution when placing pitons above the main ledge. Caution number one: the crack some six feet above the main ledge does not seem capable of taking another

piton; it might cause a large slab to peel off. Caution number two: do not remove the ring piton at the beginning of the traverse to the left. When placing pitons in this vicinity, bear in mind that you are forcing them in back of the block which is holding your good (?) ring piton. After crossing the traverse, you are on your own."

Conservationists need have no fears. When one rock falls away, there is always another beneath; the essential appearance of the Spires will remain unchanged. And the day is still far off when, as Ansel Adams once conjectured, the Yosemite walls would be so fall of pitons the cliffs would be red with rust.

Primitive Reactions

Readers of Western Skiing will be amused by the article "Primitive Areas" on page 12 of the July issue. This picture-story portrays a one-day trip to San Gorgonio, and winds up by explaining that the ski area is to the wild area as a flea is to an elephant's back. One might wonder why a one-day skier requires a 40-lb. pack; and why the absence of roads and ski lifts detracts so seriously from the "physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of our skiing citizens."

The article goes on, "The skiers who visit the primitive areas endure extreme hardships . . ."—evidently because they must walk less than five miles on a good trail, cook over a portable gasoline stove, and suffer the indignity of sleeping in a little hut instead of in a well-equipped and even more well-paid-for lodge.

As for "the endless . . . primitive areas . . . so huge, so immense, so empty . . ." readers

might be interested to know that the total of all wild areas in southern California is less than $\frac{7}{100}$ of 1 per cent of the area of the state, compared to about 0.7 per cent in northern California and to 1.0 per cent in the High Sierra. The area which would have to be withdrawn from wild status to enable sit developments on San Gorgonio would be approximately 10 per cent of the San Gorgonio wild area.

No reasonable person wants to keep "tat payers" out of the wilderness. However, the recent loss of the San Jacinto wild area, the largest one in southern California, to the tramway project has reduced the southern percentage of total state area by about one-third. This makes it clear that this small amount of wilderness should be kept inviolate from the demands of any special-interest group, whether commercial or recreational.

NATHAN C. CLARK

Mountaineering Committee Formed

As a result of discussions among several of the Club's mountaineers, a Mountaineering Committee has been organized, under the chairmanship of Raffi Bedayn. The scope of the committee is:

- (1) To represent the Club in mountaineering relationships with other clubs and with government services with respect to improvement of mountaineering technique and safety, development of equipment, aiding military mountain training, and clarification of the status of amateur climbers in national parks and monuments.
 - (2) To compile and encourage articles on

mountaineering for publication in the various journals, and to compile "Mountaineering Notes" for the Sierra Club Bulletin.

- (3) To maintain the files and otherwise take over the recording and guide-preparation program of the recent Committee on Mountain Records and Place Names.
- (4) To coördinate within the Club the activities of the chapter rock-climbing sections, to coöperate with the Winter Sports Committee on matters of winter mountaineering, and with the Education Committee on a Club mountaineering film.

Conserveneth D
Christy
Weldoor
mann I
Losh, (
good, J
and the
men of
and Ec
Hildeb

Edit Harrie Adams August E. Ma Parson strom, Edu

(Leona

D. Claderson,
Alfred
of the
of the
men o
commi

Allema lan, Jo Blanch Lod Adams

James men of Lodge Burnle wood I tonio I fornia

wid R. Harris

Committee Appointments, 1946-47

Conservation.—Arthur H. Blake (C), Kenneth D. Adam, John R. Barnard, Cicely M. Christy, August Frugé, James R. Harkins, Weldon F. Heald, Dorothy M. Hill, Hermann L. Horn, Doris F. Leonard, William J. Losh, Charlotte E. Mauk, Archie J. Twogood, Jacqueline Watkins, Francis Whitaker, and the following members ex officio: Chairmen of the Editorial, Winter Sports, Lodge, and Education committees (Brower, Clark, Hildebrand, Kehrlein), and the Secretary (Leonard).

Editorial.—David R. Brower (Editor), Harriet T. Parsons (Associate Editor), Ansel Adams, Barbara N. Bedayn, Arthur H. Blake, August Frugé, Weldon F. Heald, Charlotte E. Mauk, Carel E. H. Mulder, Marion R. Parsons, Elsie Richardson, Dorothy Sandstrom, Blanche Stallings.

Education.—Oliver Kehrlein (C), Joan D. Clark, Weldon F. Heald, Randall Henderson, Doris F. Leonard, William J. Losh, Alfred E. Weiler, and ex officio: Chairmen of the Conservation and Editorial committees of the Club (Blake and Brower), and chairmen of the Executive and the Education committees of the chapters.

Library.—Alfred E. Weiler (C), W. T. Allemann, Frances J. Blake, Jean C. Gilfillan, John Thomas Howell, Walter Mayer, Blanche Stallings, Virginia C. Ward.

Lodge.—Alex Hildebrand (C), Virginia Adams, Arthur H. Blake, Charlotte E. Mauk, James R. Walker, Jr., and ex officio: Chairmen of the Winter Sports and Clair Tappaan Lodge committees of the Club (Clark and Burnley), and of the Ski Mountaineers, Harwood Lodge, Keller Peak Hut and San Antonio Hut committees of the Southern California Chapter.

Mountaineering.—Raffi Bedayn (C), David R. Brower, Hensel Fremstad, Morgan Harris, Richard M. Leonard, John D. Men-

denhall, William Shand, Jr., and ex officio: Chairmen of the Rock Climbing committees of the San Francisco Bay and Southern California chapters (George Denison, Charles Wilts).

Outing.—Richard M. Leonard (C), Phil S. Bernays (V-C), David R. Brower (S), Raffi Bedayn, Herbert L. Breed, Milton Hildebrand, Oliver Kehrlein, H. Stewart Kimball, Norman B. Livermore, Jr.

Trails .- Walter A. Starr (C).

Winter Sports.—Lewis F. Clark (C), Nathan C. Clark (V-C), Kenneth D. Adam, Anne H. Brower, David R. Brower, W. Kenneth Davis, Richard H. Felter, Joel H. Hildebrand, H. Stewart Kimball, Einar Nilsson, Glenn L. Weber.

Clair Tappaan Lodge.—Richard N. Burnley (C), Marianne Baldauf, Arthur H. Blake, Richard H. Felter, George L. Greves, Louise H. Klein, Doris F. Leonard, Charlotte E. Mauk, Einar Nilsson, Florence Robinson, Glenn L. Weber. Chapter representatives: San Francisco Bay, Laurence Burnley, Cicely M. Christy, Mary M. Herman, Leo Schuchard; Loma Prieta, Dorothy M. Kinkade; Mother Lode, Bud Smith; and ex officio: Chairmen of Winter Sports and Lodge committees (Clark and Hildebrand).

Glacier Study.—Oliver Kehrlein (C), Eliot Blackwelder, Richard M. Leonard, François E. Matthes.

Organization Committee. — William P. Bolande (C), Herbert L. Breed (V-C), G. Morgan Cuthbertson, Francis P. Farquhar, Walter L. Huber, Herbert N. MacEwen, Percy H. Nicholson, Andrew O. Porter, Elmo A. Robinson.

Annual Dinner Committee.—Cyrus C. Washburn (C).

State Advisory Committee on Administration of Wild Life.—Charles T. Townsend (Sierra Club representative).

the total of fornia is less a area of the cent in northcent in the ould have to to enable ski would be apan Gorgonio

fears. When

ways another

And the day

ams once con-

uld be so full

with rust.

However, the ild area, the rnia, to the the southern about one-t this small kept inviscial-interest recreational. C. CLARK

in the varilountaineersulletin, d otherwise

d otherwise ide-preparammittee on nes.

imbing secinter Sports mountain-Committee



SIERRA JUNIPER

Ansel Adams

